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PAGE 22



HALIFAX

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Wednesday, November 14,
2012



News
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November heats up Halifax

Seasonably warm.

Just six weeks before
Christmas, temperatures
reach record highs

Halifax stepped back in time on Tuesday when warm temperatures nearly matched those of the long weekend in May.

People strolled around the city in shorts and were even spotted sunbathing as the high soared to nearly 19 C at Halifax Stanfield International Airport.

Environment Canada meteorologist Linda Libby said the heat was due to a low-pressure system sitting above Labrador.

"This allowed a nice, warm, southwesterly wind to flow in over the Maritimes," Libby said.

The balmy conditions broke some local weather records on Monday and Tuesday — one of them more than 30 years old.

The previous record high

for Nov. 12 was 15.4 C, set in 1995. Monday's high reached 16.1 C.

The warmest temperature on record at the airport for Nov. 13 was 16.1 C, set in 1975. Tuesday's high shattered that mark by climbing to more than 18 C.

"Unfortunately, it is coming to an end," Libby said about the return to normal temperatures for the rest of the week.

She said a cold front is moving in over New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will feel the effects for the next few days.

Libby added Halifax will likely see showers on Wednesday as well, but nothing "too nasty" is on the horizon.

The current forecasts from Environment Canada show above-average temperatures for Nova Scotia for the rest of the month and well into 2013.

Starting in December, the forecast also shows extra precipitation is in the cards for the Maritimes over the next six months. **HALEY RYAN/METRO**



Park goers at Public Gardens enjoy record warm temperatures on Tuesday afternoon. The Public Gardens is scheduled to close at the end of the month.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

Calm before the storm

Halifax Regional Council takes an amiable approach in first meeting, but weighty issues wait to be tackled **PAGE 3**

Deficit grows to \$26B

Federal finance minister's fall economic update shows a deficit \$5 billion more than forecast in March **PAGE 10**

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Congratulations to the winners of the 2012 Pengrowth-Nova Scotia Energy Innovation Grant

Emma Poirier is studying a Master of Science in Applied Science at Saint Mary's University. Emma is from Cheticamp, N.S. and graduated with a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Environmental Science from Saint Mary's University in 2012. She is currently researching the far field effects of tidal energy extraction on sedimentation processes.

Nicholas Dourado is studying a Master of Science in Physical Oceanography at Dalhousie University. He graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering from Dalhousie University in 2011. The Innovation Grant will help Nicholas with his research on acoustic detection to assess risk posed by sediment laden ice in Minas Passage.

Thinking about energy-related research?

The Pengrowth-Nova Scotia Energy Innovation Grant supports researchers investigating areas of importance to Nova Scotia's growing energy sector. Up to four \$15,000 awards are available each year for Master level students beginning studies in **earth sciences, environmental sciences, engineering, or business** at a Nova Scotia university.

The deadline for grant applications is **January 18, 2013**. To find out how to apply or for information on other available programs please visit: www.gov.ns.ca/energy/careers-training/



Number change

Council notes: Deputy mayor elected, new names for districts

Regional councillors ticked a few items off the to-do list during their first official meeting.

Councillors voted in favour of a motion from Coun. Russell Walker to have city staff poll councillors on the new district names, to determine who wants a change made.

Staff will bring a report back to council before submitting it to the Utility and Review Board for a final decision on the district titles.

Council also named the next deputy mayor, choosing Reg Rankin over Linda Mosher for the one-year term. The position comes with a salary of \$84,750.

Council approved a recommendation to have three municipal entities report to one of HRM's standing committees in order to improve oversight.

Libraries will now report to the audit and finance standing committee while HRM human resources and fire services will report to the executive standing committee.

The CAO's office circulated the second-quarter update, with two items of note to councillors.

HRM has changed the phone number for its municipal service line from 490-4000 to a three-digit number, 311.

ANDREW RANKIN/METRO



Reg Rankin METRO FILE



Mayor Mike Savage chairs his first council meeting on Tuesday afternoon in the World Trade and Convention Centre. JEFF HARPER/METRO

All is easy, breezy at council's first meeting

Weightier issues are coming. Things might get tougher for new Mayor Mike Savage when council debates restructuring



ANDREW RANKIN
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Mayor Mike Savage has officially taken over the chair of the Halifax regional council, with Tuesday's light and congenial meeting.

"It was an easy meeting to chair. There will be more difficult ones to come, but it was a good one to get started with," said Savage,

who brought an amiable approach to regional council's first official meeting, reminding councillors at one point not to address him as "Your Worship."

But he did impose some of his authority, mandating a one-minute time limit for each councillor making district announcements.

Savage said the goal is to keep the agenda moving along to meatier matters.

"I think there's a sense that we can accomplish a whole lot more working together than if we don't," he said. "The experienced folks know that and the new folks feel like, 'Let's get this thing going.'"

Though there was no debate on Tuesday's agenda

items, weightier issues are coming in the next two weeks — including a discussion on restructuring HRM's community councils.

Coun. Russell Walker, who will bring the issue up at the next regular meeting, wants the number of community councils halved, from six to three.

Walker says he also wants the councils to have greater power, in order to give council more time to deal with broad-based issues.

New councillors Wayne Mason (District 7), Matt Whitman (District 13) and Steve Craig (District 15) stayed largely quiet in their first council meeting.

Craig said it will take time to get comfortable

First time

"I know we're going to have some really important decisions to make and I feel blessed and privileged to be a part of that process."

Coun. Matt Whitman

with the workings of council.

"It was a light agenda but it was good to get our feet wet," he said.

Whitman agreed.

"It's exciting," he said. "I'm taking it all in. It's fun to be here but I'm feeling the weight of upcoming sessions."

1 NEWS

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No tree like a real tree

Christmas tradition.
Growers urge N.S.
families to support
lucrative local industry



**HALEY
RYAN**

haley.ryan@metronews.ca

The Boston Christmas tree may represent the unofficial launch of the holiday season for some Nova Scotians, but the harvest for the million-dollar industry has been under way for weeks now.

"My wife becomes a Christmas-tree widow for a couple months every year," laughed Matthew Priest, president of the Christmas Tree Council of Nova Scotia.

Priest says exports from Nova Scotia to southern markets begins in mid-October — and business is booming.

However, Priest is urging customers close to home to keep their dollars in the province by buying a local tree rather than an artificial version.

"It's an important income for rural Nova Scotians," Priest said, "It's a livelihood."

Ecologically minded types may question the decision to cut down millions of trees every year, and opt for the plastic version, which can be reused for years.

But Priest said he has had multiple environmental studies done on the impact of tree farming, and the carbon footprint evens out because of constant replanting.

The Ecology Action Centre is also selling sustainably



A 15-metre (50-foot), 70-year-old white spruce destined for Boston is loaded onto a flatbed truck in Jordan Bay, Shelburne County, on Tuesday. It's scheduled to arrive in Boston in time for a tree-lighting ceremony on Nov. 29. NOVA SCOTIA GOVERNMENT HANDOUT

logged Christmas trees and wreaths, meaning the farmer who provides them used no chemical sprays.

"It's a healthy choice for inside the home," said Tamar Eylon of the Action Centre.

"You're just breathing in trees."

A representative of the Canadian Plastics Industry Association touted the long-term durability of artificial trees in an email.

"Artificial Christmas trees are to be re-used year after year, long-term, thus preventing the cutting of trees," said Darlene Gray of the Canadian Plastics Industry Association.

Eylon says artificial trees

are made of plastic derived from oil, vinyl or PVC, and will eventually end up discarded in landfill sites.

"I don't know if they'll ever break down," she said. "But they can't be recycled."

Priest said there's just nothing like the feel and smell of a real tree during the holidays.

"It's the fragrance you get from a real fir," he said, "When you think of Christmas, it's a lot of tradition."



Researchers are working to develop a tree that keeps its needles until the decorations come off. METRO FILE

Building a better Christmas tree

Cleaning up fir needles may be a big downside to choosing a real Christmas tree, but a few Maritime scientists are trying to stop the sweeping.

The Christmas Tree Research Centre (CRC) was established at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College in 2010, and researchers are exploring the possibilities of a "smart" Christmas tree.

Dr. Rajasekaran Lada, director of the CRC, said they have been cloning and testing fir

trees to make some improvements.

"They will last longer, have that aroma, be pest and disease-resistant, and be a good-looking tree," Lada said. "The best in architecture, that's what we're looking for."

So far, Lada says the modified trees can survive up to two months after being cut down.

To deal with needle shedding, the team discovered a hormonal reaction in the fir which happens when it's cut

By the numbers

2

Modified trees can survive up to two months after being cut down, says the director of the Christmas Tree Research Centre at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College.

down, triggering needle loss.

Lada said delaying or masking the reaction improves needle retention.

They have been studying

the effects of handling trees carefully, exposing them to cold directly after cutting, and other methods to stop the hormone.

"That's the foremost thing. If you have a good-looking tree but it's shedding needles, nobody will buy it," Lada said.

He added that these technologies should be offered to farmers within the next two years, and the "smart" trees may be ready in four or five years.

HALEY RYAN/METRO

Williamswood

Man charged with attempted murder

A Williamswood man arrested in connection with a recent shooting is facing 16 charges that include two of attempted murder.

The shooting happened around 2:15 a.m. Nov. 3 near Robie and McCulley streets. A taxi driver was

headed north on Robie with a male passenger in the car when someone fired a shot from another vehicle.

No one was hurt.

Kyle Douglas Shipley, 24, of Williamswood was arrested Sunday afternoon and appeared in provincial court on Tuesday. He's been remanded until a bail hearing on Friday.

METRO

Halifax

Possible shooting investigated

Halifax Regional Police officers are trying to determine whether a shooting took place near the Metro Turning Point shelter. Police received reports of gunfire near Barrington and Cornwallis Streets around 3 p.m. Tuesday. **METRO**

Bayers Lake

Police arrest two after crash

A man and woman were arrested after crashing their car in Bayers Lake. Police tried to pull the vehicle over on Lakeland Boulevard around 2:30 Tuesday afternoon after observing suspicious behaviour by the occupants. **METRO**

Liverpool

Victim of highway crash identified

RCMP have identified the victim of a fatal crash on Highway 103 Monday. Police say Alan Wayne McTavish, 70, of Bridgewater died when the vehicle he was driving collided with a transport truck near Liverpool. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Aylesford

Woman arrested for trafficking

A 45-year-old woman is facing several charges after police searched a home on Aylesford Road in Aylesford. RCMP officers found more than 50 pounds of marijuana. A small number of prescription pills was also seized. **METRO**

Board autonomy

Proposed law will give AGNS more control

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia would no longer have to seek cabinet approval for operational decisions, including acquisitions, under legislative changes proposed on Tuesday.

Leonard Preyra, the provincial heritage minister, said the gallery board would also be able to set up an independent foundation to raise money for long-term planning and special projects.

Preyra said establishing a foundation will ensure that money earmarked for gallery projects won't be diverted toward general operating expenditures.

Director Ray Cronin said the gallery's overall budget is \$3.6 million, \$2.2 million of which comes from the province.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Public meetings

Hearings this week on Shelburne boundaries

The province has announced details of where and when its law-amendments committee will meet to discuss proposed changes to the electoral boundaries of the Shelburne district.

The meetings will be held at the Sandy Point Lighthouse Centre in Sandy Point on Thursday night and Friday morning.

The proposal to change the Shelburne boundaries, submitted this year by the Electoral Boundaries Commission, has sparked a backlash among constituents, who complain it cuts the riding in two.

Those hoping to make a presentation are urged to register in advance by calling the Nova Scotia legislative counsel office.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Halifax residents, including historian Blair Beed, centre, get a first look at one of the new signs that mark the Historic Irishtown Cultural District. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Irishtown district unveiled downtown

Cultural celebration. Irish groups unveil signs to promote and preserve historic Irishtown



ANDREW RANKIN
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What do Saint Patrick's Church, the Celtic Cross and the Halifax Public Gardens have in common?

They're all important Irish landmarks in the city, though most tourists — and residents — don't know that.

To raise awareness of the city's Irish heritage, a portion of downtown Halifax has been named Irishtown. The announcement was made on Tuesday by the Charitable Irish Society of Halifax and the An Cumann Society.

Quoted

"Many of the important and influential people in this province's history had Irish backgrounds."

Ray Bassett, Ireland's ambassador to Canada

Irishtown, bordered by Lower Water and Barrington streets, features historical signs that highlight the contribution of Irish immigrants in laying the foundation for Halifax and the province. Road signs along Bishop and Hollis streets also carry the Irishtown signs.

The announcement, which brought together Halifax Mayor Mike Savage and leaders from the Charitable Irish Society and An Cumann, also drew Ray Bassett, the Irish ambassador to Canada.

He said the designation was a long time coming.

"Sometimes we all believe

in recognizing every culture," he said. "Sometimes the culture of the original ones is slightly overlooked because it's everywhere. If you're everywhere, there's no particular designation."

Eileen Power, a member of both of the city's Irish groups, said the designation is one way to remember the adversity overcome by the Irish to make a profound contribution to Halifax.

"The Irish have been the founders of this city but never have gotten the recognition," she said. "To know that we have come from a very resilient, industrious race, that should be celebrated."

New coast-guard ship named for fallen hero

Canada's defence and fisheries ministers were on hand on Tuesday to present a new coast-guard ship named for the first French-Canadian to earn the Victoria Cross.

CCGS Caporal Kaeble V.C. is named after Cpl. Joseph Kaeble, who was a member of the Royal 22nd Regiment from 1916 until his death in 1918.

Kaeble received the Victoria Cross for single-handedly repelling an attack on Canadian lines near Arras, France. He died of wounds suffered in the attack on June 9, 1918.

Kaeble's family joined De-

fence Minister Peter MacKay and Fisheries Minister Gail Shea for the presentation in Dartmouth on Tuesday afternoon.

CCGS Caporal Kaeble V.C. is the second of the Canadian Coast Guard's new Hero class of vessels, named for decorated fallen soldiers, veterans, police officers, and employees of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and of the coast guard who have died in the line of duty.

Nine of the mid-shore patrol vessels are being built by Irving Shipyards in Halifax.

METRO



Dignitaries including federal cabinet ministers Peter MacKay and Gail Shea and members of Cpl. Joseph Kaeble's family tour CCGS Caporal Kaeble V.C., which was the site of a celebration in Halifax on Tuesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

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They failed to die for their cause ...

Suicide bombers.

Former top Israeli intelligence officer persuades them to reveal why they volunteered to kill



GRAHAM LANKTREE
Metro in Ottawa

What makes a suicide bomber?

Former top Israeli intelligence officer Yoram Schweitzer decided to find out.

For two and a half years, he interviewed would-be bombers whose missions failed.

Many, both men and women, don't consider themselves suicide bombers but soldiers, he told students and faculty at Carleton University

ahead of a talk at the University of Ottawa's Centre for International Policy Studies.

"Most of them are not suicidal," he said.

"They perceive themselves to be soldiers in their own way. This was the easiest thing to do, in a sense — to press a button.

"Many are not part of the terrorist organizations, they just volunteer for the mission."

Quoted

"I really wanted to listen to what they had to say. To have it coming from their mouth and listen to how they articulated their ... motivations."

Yoram Schweitzer,
One-time head of the Israeli Defence Forces' Counter International Terror Section.

Were the would-be bombers disappointed by the failure of their missions? Schweitzer wondered.

"They themselves told me that it was God's decision," he said.

"They said, 'I was ready to sacrifice myself, I knew the risks. If God decided that I'm still here, then I'm here.'"

Schweitzer went on: "Some of their stories are quite touching. As more time

went on, I could listen and try to understand the mindset of a terrorist.

"This phenomenon of suicide terrorism seems to be very individual at the end of the day."

Israel was hit by more than 60 suicide bombings in 2002. But now, casualties are down to nearly zero — largely through info sharing between Israeli military organizations, Schweitzer said.



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Mud, glorious mud ... not!

There goes the neighbourhood. Residents of the Hillside Park area in Daly City, Calif., woke up Tuesday to flooded streets and vehicles buried in mud after a broken water main sent 45,000 gallons of water spewing down a grassy hillside. ERIC RISBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Painful' claim

Mr. Elmo's teen accuser recants his sex claim

A man who accused Elmo puppeteer Kevin Clash of having sex with him when he was a teen has recanted his story.

In a quick turnabout, the man on Tuesday described his sexual relationship with Clash as adult and consensual.

Clash said he is "relieved this painful allegation has been put to rest."

The man, who has not identified himself, released his statement through a Harrisburg, Pa., law firm.

The episode began Monday, when Sesame Workshop — which produces Sesame Street — said Clash had taken a leave of absence in the wake of allegations he had a relationship with a 16-year-old.

Clash is a 52-year-old divorced father of a grown daughter. His accuser is in his early 20s.

Clash acknowledged he is gay but said the relationship had been between two consenting adults.

Sesame Workshop, which said it was first contacted by the accuser in June, launched an investigation that included meeting with the accuser twice and meeting with Clash. Its investigation found the charge of underage conduct to be unsubstantiated.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Modern-day Rasputin jailed

France. Swindler gets eight years for brainwashing French aristocrats into selling their home and handing over their fortune

A man described as a modern-day Rasputin was convicted Tuesday of brainwashing three generations of an aris-

ocratic French family for nearly a decade, swindling them of their fortune and their turreted manor.

Thierry Tilly, who was sentenced to eight years in prison by a court in Bordeaux, became a confidante of the landed Vedrines family in 2000. Over nine years, the man who local media dubbed "the guru" manipulated the family of 11 — aged from 16 to 89 — into believing there was a secret masonic plot

Moving on

"The trial is behind us and we will do everything to rebuild."

Christine de Vedrines, a family member who had alerted police to Thierry Tilly

against their lives, according to court testimony.

Family members were so convinced of his story that they locked themselves in-

side their chateau for several years, terrified they would be killed. They sold their possessions — including the family manor — and handed over \$5.7 million US.

The case raised echoes of the trial involving France's richest woman, 90-year-old L'Oreal heiress Liliane Bettencourt, who was swindled by a French tax lawyer into handing over a private Seychelles island to him.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Christine de Vedrines, centre, and Philippe de Vedrines, right, leave the Bordeaux court in France Tuesday. Thierry Tilly, an alleged modern-day Rasputin, has been convicted of swindling the aristocratic French family of their fortune and their turreted manor. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Belize. McAfee software founder denies role in neighbour's death

Software-company founder John McAfee is denying any role in the slaying of his neighbour on a Caribbean island, according to an on-line article posted for Wired magazine.

Wired said McAfee called a reporter on Monday to say he was hiding from police who want to question him about the death of 52-year-old Gregory Viant Faull, whose body was found on Sunday. He is quoted as saying police would kill him if they find him.

McAfee said he saw police coming on Sunday and hid, burying himself in the sand and putting a cardboard box over his head so he could breathe, according to the article.

McAfee reportedly said that whoever shot Faull may have been gunning for him instead and mistakenly killed his neighbour.

Faull was found with a gunshot wound to his head inside his two-storey home north of San Pedro, a town on the island of Ambergris Caye, said Raphael Martinez, spokesman for Belize's Ministry of National Security. The housekeeper discovered the



Software-company founder John McAfee

body Sunday morning and called police.

Martinez said that no charges had been filed in the case.

Belize police said Tuesday that McAfee, 67, remains a "person of interest" in the death of Faull, not a suspect, and that he is being sought for routine questioning. They believe he is still in Belize, but they have also contacted authorities in Mexico and Guatemala, which border Belize, for help in locating McAfee.

McAfee sold his stake in the anti-virus software company that is named for him in the early 1990s and moved to Belize about three years ago to lower his taxes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

United Arab Emirates

Gulf state cracks down on online activism

The United Arab Emirates set stricter Internet monitoring and enforcement codes Tuesday that include wider leeway to crack down on web activists for offences such as mocking the rulers or calling for demonstrations.

This month, a Bahraini man was jailed for six months on charges of insulting the king in Twitter posts. In September, a journalist-blogger in Oman received a one-year prison term for alleged anti-government writings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

China conclave

Communist officials embrace social media

During China's last party congress, officials didn't know a hashtag from a hyperlink. But five years on, they have embraced social media with unprecedented enthusiasm, hoping it can stir up excitement about the staid party meeting this week.

Dozens of delegates are using social media to post about party leader Hu Jintao's reading of highlights from the party work report. But it is also being used by the public to poke fun at the propaganda. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Surrey Mountie killed in crash. RCMP remembers fallen officer

The Surrey, B.C., Mountie killed when his unmarked cruiser collided with a transport truck early Tuesday will be remembered as an "outstanding" officer with a family history of RCMP service.

Const. Adrian Oliver, 28, was on-duty and returning to the Surrey RCMP detachment when the crash occurred at 148th St. and 64th Ave. around 5 a.m. The investigation into his death is ongoing as a team works to reconstruct the collision. **EMILY JACKSON/METRO**



RCMP Const. Adrian Oliver.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO-RCMP

Order of Canada

Former premier receives medal

The wife of former Alberta premier Ralph Klein dabbed at her teary eyes as she received an Order of Canada medal on her ailing husband's behalf. Governor General David Johnston also presented Colleen Klein with a Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal at the small ceremony at Calgary City Hall. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Bullying

B.C. goes online to tackle bullying

The B.C. government has unveiled an online tool designed to let children anonymously report bullying to school administrators.

The tool presents children with a form for them to record what happened, and they can choose whether they want school staff to contact them. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Western U. scientists tap into vegetative brain

Positive signs. Routley communicates that he "isn't in pain" to a group of researchers at Western's Brain and Mind Institute



ANGELA MULLINS
Metro in London

A team of Western University neuroscientists are getting international attention for what they've known for years.

Patients in a vegetative state may not be able to talk or physically react to questions, but tests show many of their brains are alive and ticking, the doctors say.

London's Scott Routley, a 39-year-old with brain trauma from a motor vehicle accident victim, has quickly become the medical discovery's poster child. Although Routley hasn't spoken for 12 years, he recently told a research team from Western's Brain and Mind Institute that he isn't in pain.

BBC's Panorama

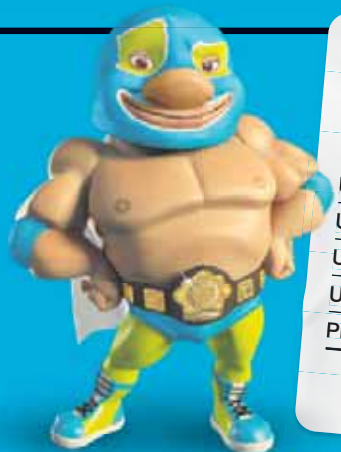
A look into the vegetative state:

- The BBC filmed Western University researchers and neuroscientists for a documentary that followed vegetative patients in Britain and Canada.
- The documentary aired on Tuesday.



Scott Routley has been able to communicate through his brain activity, say scientists at the Western University. COURTESY OF BBC/FERGUS WALSH

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If you thought the Canadian housing market was overheated...

The luxury residential building Opus Hong Kong, designed by Frank Gehry, is shown in Mid-Levels, an area east of Hong Kong. A local property company said Tuesday it sold a 6,683-square-foot apartment on the building's ninth floor for almost \$60 million. It did not say who the buyer was. The sale comes amid growing concern over surging property prices in Hong Kong. KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Newspapers

Quebecor cuts 500 Sun Media jobs

Quebecor Inc. is cutting about 500 jobs at its Sun Media newspaper division in a move that includes closing two production facilities in Ontario as it

cope with lower advertising revenue.

"Although our circulation revenue has stabilized due to strategic pricing increases, the advertising sector continues to experience declines through the news and media industry," chief executive Pierre Karl Peladeau said Tuesday.

The Southern Ontario Newsmedia Guild said about 27 journalists' jobs will be eliminated as the company centralizes copy editing and pagination in Toronto. Up to 100 jobs will be lost when the printing plants in Ottawa and Kingston close, the guild added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Larger deficits could delay Tory promises

Fall update. Weak global economy means Ottawa won't show surplus until 2016-17

The Harper government has pushed back its target date for eliminating the deficit by one year, leaving open the possibility it won't be able to fulfil two key election promises on income splitting and doubling tax-free saving accounts.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty delivered his fall economic update Tuesday, saying global economic weakness has carved into commodity prices and tax revenues.

The update showed a bottom line for this fiscal year worse than many expected, with the deficit at \$26 billion, up \$5 billion from the March budget forecast.

This year's deficit would be even higher, by about \$7 billion, if Flaherty hadn't hedged his bet by adding a \$3 billion cushion, or margin for risk, into his budget calculations.

Flaherty also said it will take a year longer than predicted to balance the budget.

Market Minute

 DOLLAR
99.81¢ (-0.06¢)

TSX
12,134.66 (-56.80)

OIL
\$85.38 US (-19¢)

GOLD
\$1,724.20 US (-\$6.10)

Natural gas: \$3.75 US (+18¢)
Dow Jones: 12,756.18 (-58.90)

By the numbers

\$26B

Ottawa now projects its deficit will rise to \$26 billion this fiscal year, which ends in March, as opposed to the predicted \$21.1 billion. Going forward, the deficit is now projected at \$16.5 billion next year, compared with the budget estimate of \$10.2 billion, and \$8.6 billion in 2014-15, as opposed to \$1.3 billion.

about the program's fate, Flaherty said it will have to wait. "Any movement on that will have to await a balanced budget," he said.

The government had also promised to double the contribution to tax-free savings accounts to \$10,000 once the budget was balanced.

"Canada has clearly been affected by volatile and falling world commodity prices since the budget in late March," Flaherty said in a speech to a Fredericton business audience.

"And the forecast of private sector economists is consistent with the view that world commodity prices will remain below the level anticipated at the time of the budget."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



A funny thing happens
when you tell kids they matter.
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An alarming 40,000 kids drop out of high school every year. Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada are committed to changing that. They provide a safe and supportive place where kids can develop confidence and life skills. They offer programs like *Rogers Raising the Grade*™ to help kids with their studies. The Club is a place where kids can drop in, so they're less likely to drop out.

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IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Terrorists, earthquakes, hurricanes, blackouts, financial collapse, pandemic, nuclear fallout, oh my.

Not to mention the end of the world, which is even closer than

Christmas: Dec. 21, according to most paranoid interpretations of the Mayan calendar.

All these threats, real or imagined, have spawned a new generation of survivalists called "preppers." And, of course, they have their own reality-TV show: Domsday Preppers, the most watched show on the National Geographic Channel.

(Have you noticed a trend? Cable channels like The Learning Channel, the History Channel, the Outdoor Life Network, and now, sadly, the National Geographic Channel, start off all high-minded, but inevitably deteriorate into a trailer-park farce of bounty hunters, repo men, hoarders, flea-market hucksters and, now, preppers.)

Stockpiling survivalist theories

What's different about these guys from the earlier generation of survivalists, who just worried about commies, is that preppers have a techie take; they see the world as an increasingly fragile place because we're all so dependent on the power grid for our existence and Facebook.

apocalypse), plus water, gas, diesel fuel, biohazard suits, coal, charcoal, and eight chickens. Oh, and 14 guns so he can blast them bacteria to smithereens.

What's different about these guys from the earlier generation of survivalists, who just worried about commies, is that preppers have a techie take; they see the world as an increasingly fragile place because we're all so dependent on the power grid for our existence and Facebook. Which means, naturally, that Iran is at this very moment developing an electromagnetic pulse weapon that will shut that grid down and 747s will fall from the sky, à la Revolution, that popular FICTIONAL show on NBC.

These people are not an isolated incident. A National Geographic survey shows 28 per cent of Americans know a prepper, and, of course, there are prepper networks. (Mad jingle music: Oh I'm a prepper, He's a prepper, She's a prepper, We're a prepper, Wouldn't you like to be a prepper too!)

The Southwicks are part of a seven-family prepper pod who hunker down, er, go on vacation together.

Of course, the really sad thing is that even though these people are crazy, it doesn't mean they're crazy. A lot of the eye-rolling stopped after Hurricane Sandy. Instead of being forced to curl up on soggy mattresses, preppers were high and dry with their stockpiles and backup generators.

The latest threat? The re-election of U.S. President Barack Obama, which apparently means the economy will collapse and your debit card will be worthless.

Better start stockpiling those bumper stickers that say: Don't Blame Me, I Voted For Mitt Romney.



Braxton Southwick and his daughter Rylee are seen as they prepare for a smallpox epidemic in West Jordan, Utah. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL

Picture-perfect parody



LANCE ARMSTRONG/TWITTER



TWITTER

Internet memes

Armstrong tweets pic and gets panned

Lance Armstrong posted the provocative photograph of himself posing with seven framed Tour de France winners' jerseys on Twitter.

"Back in Austin and just layin' around," Armstrong wrote Saturday to accompany the image of him laying on a sofa below the framed jerseys in the media and games room of his Texas home.

The picture caused a flood of comical memes poking fun at Armstrong for the tweet.

METRO

Other memes

- **Going Dutch.** Holland midfielder Mark van Bommel poked fun at both Armstrong and himself with his own tweeted picture, substituting out the victory yellow jerseys with yellow cards. Earlier this season, van Bommel, who now plies his trade at PSV Eindhoven, became the first player in Eredivisie history to pick up a yellow card in each of the first five match days of a Dutch top flight season.

- **Hall of shame.** Another photoshopped image circulating the twittersphere shows portraits of pro golfer Tiger Woods, former U.S. president Bill Clinton, former California governor

Arnold Schwarzenegger and Canadian ex-sprinter Ben Johnson. Woods lost numerous sponsorship deals following revelations of extramarital affairs. Claims of infidelity have also hit Clinton and Schwarzenegger, while Johnson lost his Olympic 100-metre title due to doping.

- **What am I on?** Armstrong did a Nike commercial in 2001, where he responds to the question "What am I on?" with: "I am on my bike, busting my a-- six hours a day" reinforcing his belief that his body is the only thing he needs to win. A parody has since appeared on YouTube with a voice-over saying Lance was on banned substances.

Urine and you're out

Photo-enhancing technology

In this humorous Photoshopped picture, Armstrong's jerseys are replaced with images of performance-enhancing drugs and other narcotics, and a picture of a urine sample.

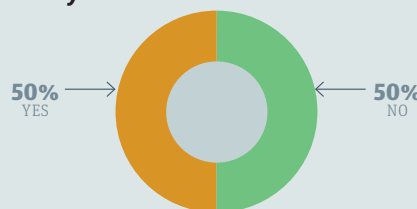
The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency ordered Armstrong banned from cycling for life and stripped of his Tour de France titles. The International Cycling Union, which had originally supported Armstrong's fight, later agreed to wipe out Armstrong's record titles last month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Did you attend a Remembrance Day ceremony?



Twitter

@glorygloryband:

Wearing a t-shirt outside in November, looking at christmas wreaths all along Barrington st. #halifornia #haliwood

@mattrice06:

Welcome to Halifax, where our November long weekend is warmer than our May long weekend. #gofigure

@ChxrliBrown:

Does every dude in Halifax tuck

their pants in their socks??

@colinwentzell:

#Halifax Can't wait to sure up my retirement fund when 3rd eye starts to grow after drinking the water.

@Ponderlock:

There's a real arcade open in the North End of #halifax. I think my Saturday and Sunday are now set.



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Looking for a new career? You can be a professional YouTuber

Fame. If you can get noticed, you can make some cash off the video-sharing site

RITA
POLIAKOV
scene@metronews.ca

Lilly Singh was supposed to be a lawyer. Or a psychiatrist. Or a TV sensation.

But not a YouTuber.

"When I was younger, YouTube didn't exist," said Singh, a 24-year-old based in Markham, Ont., with a psychology degree and a knack for editing videos. "I only properly started using YouTube four years ago."

About two years ago, Singh (known as Superwoman to her cyber fans) decided to post her first video — not for fame, but for fun. Now, she not only has more than 100,000 subscribers, but has created a career on the site.

And she's not alone.

Before 2005, there were few outlets for people like Singh.

Then the video-sharing site was formed by three former PayPal employees. In 2006, it was bought by Google Inc.

As more and more users started video blogging, the concept of a YouTuber was born.

Suddenly, those who could capture the attention of enough people could make money off the site.

According to Alhan Keser, a social media marketing expert, the process is fairly simple.

"After you get a certain number of views on your videos ... Google starts to share ad revenue with you," he said.

While this process has changed through the years, it served Singh well.



Lilly Singh has found her calling. The 24-year-old has more than 100,000 subscribers on YouTube. SUBMITTED

"Initially, before YouTube changed the format, they'd send certain people the opportunity to monetize individual videos (meaning videos can display ads)," she said.

"Now, everybody who makes content can monetize a video, but not everyone is an official YouTube partner," Singh added.

Success on YouTube is about video views. The more views, the greater chance of becoming a partner, which provides users with extra tools to succeed on the site.

"Don't get me wrong," Singh said. "I'm not bailing off YouTube. I'm just barely sustainable."

While she may not be rich, the YouTuber has

found her calling.

"My dad still thinks I'm going to be a lawyer till this day. I sat (my parents) down and I'm like, 'Listen. This is what I want to do, but I promise you I'll do it well,'" Singh said.

And she has.

Her videos, which range from skits about living in an Indian household to

Tips

Lilly Singh, or Superwoman, as she's known on YouTube, turned her videos into a full-time career. So how do you capitalize on the site's potential? Singh and social media marketing expert Alhan Keser, of Blue Fountain Media, share some tips.

- **Make videos people want to watch.** "Unless you create content people keep coming back to, it's not going to happen. Just like any publication, you've gotta be creating content that's relevant to your following," Keser said.
- **Promote yourself.** "To get the views, a good way to start is to use the promoted videos option. You pay a small amount for your video to show up for certain searches," Keser said. YouTube's keyword tool can also help ensure viewers find your videos.
- **Don't mind the haters.** "You can not let (mean comments) get to you. You need to really love what you're going to do and commit to it. Above all, believe (in) what you're posting," Singh said.

rants about the difficulties of working out — "What if there's little people that live in our boobs, and every time we do jumping jacks it's like an earthquake for them?" — often get more than 100,000 views.

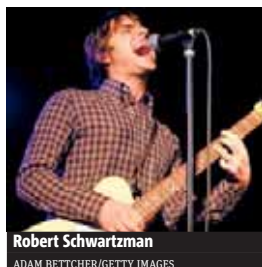
"(YouTube) has allowed people to express themselves in a way that wasn't achievable before," she said.

Robert Schwartzman: Doing whatever suits him

Robert Schwartzman doesn't know where he is, artistically speaking that is. Geographically, he seems aware of his location.

He's in L.A., having just arrived home from Qatar, where he was working on a film shoot. He's about to leave for East Coast dates for his solo album, *Double Capricorn*.

But, artistically speaking, the musician/actor and Rooney frontman is floating — just a bit. "I'm figuring out what I want to do with all this stuff," he says of acting, film scoring and the pop music he continues to record. "In a good way! It's all over the place. I'm happy that it's not defined.



Robert Schwartzman
ADAM BETTCHER/GETTY IMAGES

I can play around with different things," Schwartzman insists that his power pop project — the band known as Rooney — are not disbanded, just on hiatus.

"I think of it like marrying your high school sweetheart. We were high school friends who formed a band and toured and experienced all these things together. We all reached a point where we were like, 'Let's take a second.' It seemed a healthy moment to collect ourselves."

Why not just take a break from music altogether?

"I don't know if I can. I can't get too far away from it," says Schwartzman. "Now I've had all this time to look at new opportunities — I've been pursuing that. I want to keep things fresh. I don't want same old-same old."

METRO BOSTON

Family discipline

Robert Schwartzman had acting roles in cousin Sofia Coppola's *The Virgin Suicides* and *The Princess Diaries*.

His uncle is Francis Ford Coppola, older brother Jason is Wes Anderson's go-to guy, their mom is actress Talia Shire (*The Godfather* and *Rocky*) and his dad was a pro-

ducer.

Yeah, he grew up in a showbiz family.

"From a bird's eye view, it looks like that. ... But I was all about music and movies. I love movies and acting, when the project is right. My mother would make us watch these great movies, force us to watch *Clockwork Orange*-style," Schwartzman jokes. "I couldn't close my eyes for three days."



Taylor Swift. ALL GETTY IMAGES

Taylor Swift doesn't want to wear the pants in a relationship

Taylor Swift has certainly had enough relationships in the last few years to get a sense of what she's looking for, and it turns out she sometimes just wants to be told what to do.

"If I feel too much like I'm wearing the pants, I start to feel uncomfortable

and then we break up," she tells Harper's Bazaar.

"It's wonderful to hand over the reins to your boyfriend when you control so much of these big, high-pressure decisions, you know? That is a huge factor in who you choose to be with."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Clock ticking on Bieber, Gomez getting back together?

While Justin Bieber fans are still in shock over his split from Selena Gomez, there might be good news for them on the horizon.

It appears the pair met up on the sly at the

London Hotel in New York City this week, according to Hollyscoop.

Bieber was spotted slipping into the hotel a few hours after Gomez checked in, and she later left with a Bieber pal, Alfredo Flores, while Bieber himself reportedly snuck out the back entrance with Gomez's bodyguard.

And besides, both are expected to attend this weekend's American Music Awards, so the clock is ticking for a reconciliation.



Emma Stone

Emma Stone officiates wedding for her publicist, director

Emma Stone may not be ready to talk marriage with Andrew Garfield, but she's definitely up for helping friends get hitched.

The Amazing Spider-Man star officiated the wedding of her publicist, Holly Shakoor, to her Zombieland director, Ruben Fleischer, over the weekend in Ojai, Calif., according to Us Weekly.

"She was very eloquent and composed and didn't seem nervous at all," a source says. "(Shakoor and Fleischer) always credited Emma with them finding each other, so having her officiate the wedding was a no-brainer."

Also in attendance were Garfield, Sofia Vergara, Gabrielle Union and Christina Hendricks.

Twitter



@aplusk

What is the most useful app on your phone?



@katyperry

I finally turned the faucet back on and it's a flowing... Well well well



@ParisJackson

had soooo much fun at disneyland today!!



@SteveMartinToGo

Latest poll shows that many American believe that Abraham Lincoln is the current president who just made a movie.

Knightley happy with some nudity

Keira Knightley has a simple set of rules for how much skin she'll show on camera, and going topless isn't a problem for the British actress.

"I'm quite rigorous about what gets exposed," she tells Allure magazine.

"No bottom half! I don't mind exposing my (breasts) because they're so small — people really aren't that interested."

The magazine appears to disagree, using a topless photo of Knightley, carefully shielding her chest with her arms, for the cover.

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Here are the best places to track down some of the world's most exciting beasts.

EMMA E. FORREST
Metro World News

Lemurs in Madagascar

The world's fourth-largest island of Madagascar has unique and exotic flora and fauna that has evolved since it became isolated more than 160 million years ago, and its most iconic species is the lemur. There are more than 30 kinds of this cute primate living on the island. Stay at Vakona Lodge and you can go on expeditions into the local rainforests to find nocturnal and daytime lemurs including the Indri Indri, Diadem Sifaka and mouse lemur. The Lodge also has a private reserve on an island, which is home to black and white ruffed lemurs and eastern lesser bamboo lemurs that have been rescued from captivity. aardvarksafaris.com.



5 spots to go wild



Kangaroos in Australia

Want to spot a kangaroo bouncing in the wild? The best place to find them is Kangaroo Island, South Australia, a short flight from the city of Adelaide. The island broke free from the mainland 10,000 years ago and there's even a unique sub-species of kangaroo there as well as the regular 'roos. A third of this island is preserved as a national conservation park, and it's a bit like a zoo without enclosures, with many of the country's native creatures roaming free, including wallabies, koalas and spiny short-beaked echidnas. You'll also find whales, dolphins, penguins and seals along its 500 kilometres of shimmering coastline. southaustralia.com

Leopards in South Africa

For the best sightings of leopards languishing in the trees, the best place is Sabi Sand, the oldest private reserve in South Africa and home to a huge wealth of Africa's most exciting animals, including lions, cheetahs, giraffes and, of course, leopards. It's also the setting for some of the country's most glamorous lodges. Their expert trackers will take you by four-by-four to hunt down leopards to shoot — with your camera, of course. For a honeymoon, stay at a lodge in the Singita Sabi Sands concession, where you can recover in plush surroundings after getting up at 5 a.m. to look for leopards. singita.com



Orangutans in Borneo

Love a flaming redhead? Then you probably love orangutans. You can find them in the wild and in rehabilitation centres in the Malaysian island of Borneo. The best place to track them down is by following one of the trails in the Danum Valley Conservation Area

or by boat along the Kinabatangan River at the Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary in Sabah, where you'll also see crocodiles, proboscis monkeys and elephants. The shaggy beasts also roam free at the rehabilitation centre in Kubah National Park in Sarawak, and you can join a ranger on a jungle tour to visit them. tourism.gov.my



Pandas in China

Remember those adorable pandas you saw on the news when they were relocated after the huge earthquake in Sichuan province in 2008? All 18 of them have just returned to eat their bodyweight in bamboo at the Wolong Nature Reserve, 100 kilometres from Chengdu city, where they live in large, newly-rebuilt

enclosures. You can hold panda babies and spend a couple of days volunteering to look after them there or at Bifengxia Panda Reserve where the Wolong pandas stayed after the quake. It's only a two hours drive from Chengdu, and visitors can see adult and baby pandas in an enclosure as well as explore the reserve's stunning landscape. thechinaguide.com

Soak up the sun in Portugal's Azores

Stunning views.

Set in the middle of the Atlantic with a subtropical climate, this is the place to hit up this winter

REBECCA
FINKEL
life@metronews.ca

You can be forgiven for never having heard of the Azores. On the travel shelves of most bookstores, titles will skip straight from Australia to the Bahamas. But this tiny archipelago in the middle of the Atlantic is overdue to become a destination for travellers seeking unspoiled subtropical terrain that wears its history on its sleeve.

What to see

The first thing you'll notice is the many shades of Azorean

blue: the clear sky, the persistently blooming hydrangeas and morning glories, and the deep turquoise ocean stretching undisturbed for more than a thousand miles in all directions. Each island has its own geographical marvels, such as the 7,713-foot-high dormant volcano that gives Pico Island its name and the hikeable lava tunnels beneath, as well as the steaming hot springs in Sao Miguel.

What to do

Because of the variety of terrain, there's plenty to do, from hiking to scuba diving. If you're drawn to the water, the Azores has plenty of public swimming areas carved into the craggy basalt shoreline. And this former whaling capital now draws some of the Atlantic's best whale and dolphin watching. With nine islands to explore, it helps to consult a company that customizes tours to your interests and abilities. We

like Picos de Aventura (picos-deaventura.com) in Ponta Delgada and A-Abegoaria (a-abegoaria.com), serving the island of Pico.

What to eat

"Meat or fish?" is often the question come dinnertime. Because of its location, seafood is the centrepiece of many Azorean menus. But beef from the island's free-roaming cattle is also a good bet. Some of the best restaurants are tiny, side-street cafés, where the prato do dia (dish of the day) and a glass of local wine will only set you back five euros.

Where to stay

Aldeia da Fonte's rambling seaside property includes a private seaside bathing area, a spa and an old whaling lookout tower. Be sure to enjoy a glass of local vino verdeiro at the lovely outdoor bar (aldeia-dafonte.com).



These horses enjoy the views the Azores offers. MWN



Azores — an escape from the winter. MWN



Vancouver, Canada

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In search of Jamaica's soul

Island life. Caribbean country's people turn a regular vacation into an extraordinary cultural experience

AURÉLIE
RESCH

life@metronews.ca

It all started with a gold ring my friend dropped in the sand. "Oh, no! It is so dear to my heart! I just can't lose it."

We started to scratch the sand desperately searching for the ring. Mind you, it was dusk and mosquitoes were feasting on our legs. Some people on the beach saw us and came to ask what the problem was.

Once we explained that the tiny golden ring belonging to my friend got lost in the sand as she was brushing a mosquito off her eye, the four Jamaican friends entered the search.

One appeared with a rake



The azure water invites visitors to spend as much time as possible swimming and snorkeling. PHOTOS AURÉLIE RESCH

and they started to comb the beach. It was really dark by now and I had honestly lost hope I could comfort my friend when one of the men helping us raised his hand, the ring in his palm. We were flabbergasted and so happy he actually found it. We thanked the four friends and had dinner with them on the beach. This episode was our first introduction to Jamaican

kindness and hospitality.

The day after, we shared many laughs with the two incredibly talented massage therapists who performed their art on our sore and tense muscles. These ladies had a vivid sense of humour and a very contagious joie de vivre that made our day.

Our various interactions with people in Negril and Montego Bay were charming,



Welcome to rush hour on the island.

fun and educational. We spent time listening to Jamaicans in love with their island, history and sports, eager to share their passion and to chat. We learned about cooking, slavery, ghosts and Jamaican athletes. It didn't take long until we felt close to Jamaica.

My friend and I agreed Jamaicans are the real soul of the island. Their smile, availability and kindness make the most of Jamaica. There are places to be loved for their landscapes, others for their inhabitants. Jamaica is fortunate to combine both, with the addition of music and food.

Negril enchanted us with its pristine warm waters and its black rocky coast leading to the Negril Lighthouse. We spent as much time as we could swimming and snorkeling, sunbath-

ing and admiring sunsets. We swam with dolphins at the Dolphin Cove and took the opportunity to join other visitors on a catamaran to explore more of the coastline and marvel at the indigo blue, stormy silver clouds and rainbows the sky displayed for us.

And then, up for a change, we would horseback ride in Montego Bay, among coconut trees, bamboo forests and wetlands. We would discover tiny farmer villages, old rum factories and mills. We would try to spot the tiny Coqui frogs famous for their unique sound, learn the name of all the fruits we'd pass by or try and feed our curiosity for history at the former plantation, the Rose Hall Great House, now a museum to the most important antique collection in the Caribbean. As

for our interest in music, Reggae is everywhere, on every lip at each street corner. You can whistle, dance or sing — music is Jamaica, Jamaica is music.

Jamaica is a pretty laid back island. Even in the downtown of parishes we stopped in, we observed — and adopted — the easy going attitude. No rush, no stress. No cars or trucks to honk angrily at that donkey running loose on the road. No pressure in restaurants and stores. Everybody eats, behaves and enjoys life at a tranquil pace. And when it was time to get back home for the night, we'd opt for a villa to rent. Jamaica has the best-kept secret luxurious properties — a business that is growing as discerning travellers prefer privacy and elegance to the busy, all-inclusive resorts.



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Easter Island still filled with mystery

Tricky travels. The moai statues aren't the only enigma on this remote outpost — try booking a hotel and planning a trip

From its famed giant stone statues to finding a good, affordable hotel, Easter Island is full of mysteries.

There are ancient questions, like how the statues were transported, and why the island lost its trees. And there are modern puzzles, like what \$1,600 a night will get you in a hotel and why roads aren't better marked for visitors touring the island.

Perhaps it's fitting that riddles still exist on the most remote inhabited island on earth — a Chilean territory in the South Pacific, 3,700 kilometres to the west of the South American continent.

A recent issue of National Geographic magazine outlined six different theories on how a people with no wheel and

no draft animals were able to move massive statues weighing up to 90 metric tons as much as 18 kilometres across the island.

Upon arriving, visitors are greeted in the Polynesian tradition with flower leis, then given a brief tour of the town of Hanga Roa, home to most of the island's 5,500 residents.

With more than 50,000 visitors a year, the island is home to an assortment of restaurants, car rental agencies, markets, souvenir stores, watersport shops and small hotels, and since everything is imported to the island, prices are high.

It can be a challenge to plan a trip to Easter Island. Little independent information is available online, and Easter Island, or Rapa Nui as the locals call it, is but a few pages in most guidebooks. Most hotels appear spartan, while the luxurious and all-inclusive Explora is \$1,600 a night. A new option, the waterfront Hangaroa Eco Village & Spa, rings in at \$550 a night. Once settled in your

If you go...

- **Easter Island.** A Rapa Nui National Park pass is \$50 at the airport for non-Chileans, \$60 elsewhere.
- **Getting there.** Direct flights on LAN Airlines from Santiago, Chile; Lima, Peru and Tahiti.
- **What's in a name.** The original name of the island is lost. It is called Easter Island because the first Dutch explorer spotted it on Easter in 1721.

hotel, arrange a day-long outing with James Grant-Peterkin, author of the book *A Companion To Easter Island*.

His tour takes visitors around the 163-square-kilometre island, introducing them to the moai statues. Although they are often referred to as heads, they are in fact whole-body carvings made by descendants of the first Polynesian settlers hundreds of years ago.



Fifteen moai stand watch at Tongariki on Easter Island. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Just what they represent and why they were toppled in the century after the first European explorers arrived in 1721 is another unknown.

Fewer than 50 of the statues have been re-erected by archaeologists, and the most impressive of these is a site where 15 colossal moai stand on a ceremonial platform more than 213 metres long.

Just down the road is the National Park of Rano Raraku, the quarry where the moai were carved. A path winds among the 400 statues, completed to varying degrees. Whatever their reason, there is no doubt that workers stopped ahead of schedule, leaving a stone graveyard

to what was once a sophisticated civilization.

Most of the moai are buried up to the neck, giving the impression that they are nothing more than heads. One, lying on its back, measures about 21 metres in length. Another has a petroglyph of a European sailing ship scratched onto its belly. One depicts the moai kneeling, the only one known to have legs. Sadly, this unique sculpture is being worn away by the elements, something people here seem resigned to accept.

But there is more to the island than moai. Visit the site of the ancient birdman competitions, where men would scramble down a 305-metre cliff, then

swim 1.6 kilometres through crashing waves to a rookery where they would camp, waiting to claim a tern egg for their chief.

There are volcanic craters, and a 6.4-kilometre-long lava tube, and you can swim off a sandy beach in the shadow of more moai.

Yet another small wonder can be found at the island's tiny museum. Here, one can examine copies of the wooden Rongo Rongo tablets, which are covered in an unknown script. Only 26 of these remain in existence, all overseas, and all undeciphered, adding to the mystery of Easter Island.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Drink of the Week

Cold Pumpkin Pie Cocktail

Pumpkin pie is the perfect fall treat. This delicious drink pays homage to it with tasty vanilla vodka and Baileys Irish Cream.

- 2 oz vanilla vodka
- 1/2 oz pumpkin spiced syrup
- 3/4 oz lemon juice
- 1/2 oz Baileys Irish Cream
- 1/4 oz Frangelico

Shake all of the ingredients hard and strain them into a cocktail glass. Garnish the top with a dash of cinnamon.

METRO
WORLD
NEWS/ COLIN MAXWELL,
ABE & ARTHUR'S IN
NEW YORK



Skip store-bought stuff and make quintessential fall treat

Did you know that small "pie" pumpkins are now available at many farmers markets so you can savour locally grown harvest flavour?

Start the savouring with this recipe, but be careful not to overbake it or the filling will dry out and crack.

1. Preheat oven to 180 C (350 F). Then cut pumpkin in half; scrape away seeds and fibre and place cut side down on an oiled baking sheet. Cover with foil and bake until very tender. Timing will vary from 35 minutes to more than an hour depending on the size and density of the pumpkin. Let pumpkin cool, then remove peel and mash until very smooth. If you

Ingredients

- 1 small pie pumpkin
- 2 eggs
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) granulated sugar
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) brown sugar
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) ground cinnamon
- 5 ml (1 tsp) ground ginger
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) grated nutmeg
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) salt
- 22 ml (1 1/2 tbsp) brandy (optional)
- 150 ml (2/3 cup) 35 per cent whipping cream
- 23-cm (9-inch) pie crust, partially baked in advance

The Best Pumpkin Pie



This recipe serves six. THE CANADIAN PRESS HANDOUT

wish, force puree through a fine-meshed sieve for extra smooth texture. Let cool and refrigerate. Set aside 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) pumpkin puree for this 23-cm (9-inch) pie; any extra can be frozen for future use.

2. In a large bowl, using an electric mixer on medium speed or with a whisk, beat eggs and both sugars together

until combined and smooth and pale in colour. Add pumpkin, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg and salt. With electric mixer or using a wooden spoon, stir to combine. Fold in cream and brandy, if using.

3. Place pie plate lined with partially baked pastry shell on a baking sheet. Fill with pumpkin mixture. Bake in a 180 C (350 F) oven until pas-

try is golden and filling is just set, 40 to 45 minutes. Let stand for 10 minutes.

4. Serve at room temperature or chilled, perhaps with a spoonful of sweetened vanilla or brandy-flavoured whipped cream on the side.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ALL THE BEST RECIPES BY JANE RODMELL (ROBERT ROSE, 2009)

Ingredients

- 625 ml (2 1/2 cups) flour
- 5 ml (1 tsp) baking soda
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt
- 5 ml (1 tsp) nutmeg
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cinnamon
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) each butter and almond butter
- 250 ml (1 cup) sugar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 250 ml (1 cup) reduced pumpkin puree (reduce in a pan over medium heat, stirring frequently, for at least an hour, until colour becomes a deep brown)
- 5 ml (1 tsp) vanilla
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) diced almonds, toasted
- 250 ml (1 cup) chocolate chips

until lightly browned. Transfer cookies to a wire rack to cool

completely. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Pumpkin Almond Cookies. Pair with coffee

1. In bowl, mix flour, baking soda, salt and spices; set aside.

2. In the large bowl of an electric mixer, cream together butter, almond butter and sugars until light and fluffy. Add egg, pumpkin and vanilla and mix until just combined. On medium-low speed, add flour

mixture until fully incorporated. Remove bowl from mixer and stir in almonds and chocolate chips.

3. Drop teaspoonfuls onto a greased or lined cookie sheet and flatten slightly with the back of a spatula. Bake in a 180 C (350 F) oven for 15 minutes or

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Student voice

A rough go after graduation

Harmanmeet Garg
Graduate, Computer networking
Humber College
TalentEgg.ca

I came to Canada as an international student and studied computer networking at Humber College in Toronto. Then I moved to Winnipeg to settle and get permanent residency because it's easier to get permanent residency in Manitoba than in Ontario.

When I graduated, I applied for lots of jobs and I am still applying — every day I apply for 20 to 25 jobs online, and on weekends I hand out my resumé's at stores.

I have the computer knowledge, excellent mathematical, data entry, multitasking and interpersonal skills, and I am hard-working, but I have received no replies to my applications.

What I'm doing now

I am working full-time at Wendy's, where I am doing my best to get promoted because I don't want to work on a grill dropping



meat patties for \$10 an hour. I respect every job and profession, but it's not my career interest. Plus, I am only earning about \$1200 per month and I need money to pay back my student loan. I am well qualified and I do my best in a job, so I am trying to get a job with a good salary in a good company.

My advice for students
My advice is choose what you study according to your interests and study hard, because when you graduate it matters a lot how well you studied.

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The pink slip can be a colourful second chance

Grin after the goodbye. How to bounce back from a surprise layoff

JULIA WEST
life@metronews.ca

No matter how many stories you hear about downsizing and layoffs, you're never quite prepared when you're the one losing a job. There's nothing wrong with being shaken and shocked by the initial blow — it's all about how you get back on your feet that will make the difference in your career's trajectory.

Before you start feverishly editing your resumé and obsessing over job sites, take some time to process what happened.

Ricky Cohen, author of *Risk to Succeed*, suggests taking three weeks before making any big moves.

"During the first week a person should mourn his or



This hurts — but if you didn't actually love the job, now is a good time to do some thinking. ISTOCK

ents to ensure the greatest possibility of success."

During this time of reflection, it's a good idea to think about what excites you. If you're going to redirect the path of your career, now is a great time to do so.

"Ask yourself what you really want to do," says Josh Tolan, CEO of Spark Hire.

"Have you just stayed at your job because it was a steady paycheck or because you really loved what you were doing day in and day out? If you were unhappy even before the pink slip, use this as an opportunity to refocus your energies."

When the time comes for you to start applying for a new position, try to remain positive.

"Attitude is everything during the job search," says Amit De, CEO and co-founder of Careerleaf.

"An unexpected layoff is certain to start a job search off in a less-than-positive direction. As a job seeker, it's important to remain positive, confident and prepared."

her loss," explains Cohen. "The second week should be dedicated to an objective evaluation of where he stands, the lessons learned and the future opportunities. The third week should be one where a plan is developed with the compon-



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DETERMINE YOUR RISK

CANRISK QUIZ CAN HELP PREDICT YOUR ESTIMATED RISK OF TYPE 2 DIABETES

It's a little known fact that more than one million Canadians who are living with type 2 diabetes don't even know they have it, and many others are at risk of developing it.

Thanks to an easy 11-step Canadian Diabetes Risk (CANRISK) questionnaire that takes mere minutes to complete online, you can learn your estimated risk of developing pre-diabetes or type 2 diabetes.

"Knowing your risk can help you make healthy choices now that will reduce your risk of developing diabetes," says Jeannette Wang, the senior vice-president of professional affairs and services for Shoppers Drug Mart.

Type 2 diabetes, the most common form of the disease, develops when your pancreas doesn't produce enough insulin or your body doesn't properly use the insulin it makes. The number of Canadians with type 2 is increasing rapidly due to several factors, including an aging

population, rising obesity rates and more sedentary lifestyles.

Aboriginal people are three to five times more likely than the general population to develop type 2 diabetes. And almost 80 per cent of new Canadians come from populations that are at higher risk for type 2 diabetes, including those of Hispanic, Asian, South Asian and African descent.

The CANRISK questionnaire will ask about important risk factors for diabetes, including your age, gender, family history, nutrition choices and ethnicity. You will also need to know your height, weight and waist measurement. The results are for your information only and confidential; the information is automatically deleted when you close out of the questionnaire.

While the questionnaire is targeted mainly at adults between the ages of 40 and 74, it may also benefit younger people with apparent risk factors.



ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

For example, if the results indicate a high estimated risk, making certain healthy lifestyle changes — such as increasing exercising, eating more low-fat foods, fibre and fruit, and quitting smoking — can reduce the risk.

Throughout the year, Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacies hold CANRISK screening days. "We really want to encourage

the public to reach out to their Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacists in the pharmacies and online," Wang says.

To complete the CANRISK questionnaire, visit canrisk.shoppersdrugmart.ca. If you don't have a computer, ask your Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacist to print a paper version for you.

— Jane Doucet

CDE'S ARE A VALUABLE RESOURCE

A certified diabetes educator (CDE) is a trained health-care professional who can help Canadians manage every aspect of their diabetes care, whether you were recently diagnosed or you have lived with diabetes for years.

In addition to advising you on blood-glucose monitoring, a CDE can provide information about diabetes medications and develop healthy-eating and physical-activity plans tailored to your specific needs.

"Shoppers Drug Mart has 450 pharmacists across Canada who are certified diabetes educators," says Jeannette Wang, the senior vice-president of professional affairs and services for Shoppers Drug Mart.

Because the number of Canadian adults being diagnosed with type 2 diabetes is rising rapidly, there are often weeks-long waiting lists for patients to get an appointment at diabetes centres or clinics.



BANANASTOCK/THINKSTOCK

"In those cases and for ongoing care, Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacists and CDEs are a great resource," Wang says. "They can bring so much awareness to help people manage their diabetes, and they sometimes can take appointments the same day or in a day or two."

A CDE can set aside the time to meet with a diabetes patient in a private counselling area of the pharmacy. He or she might administer an A1C blood test (a marker to indicate how well your diabetes is being managed over a three-month period) or answer questions about whether

certain over-the-counter medications are safe to take.

If you don't understand something about your diabetes care, keep asking questions until the information is clear. For example, if you are prescribed a medication for the first time, make sure you ask your pharmacist what its purpose is and when you should take it.

It's important for Canadians to know that they can take advantage of the wide range of support that's available through the wide array of health-care professionals in their communities. "All Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacists have the knowledge to take care of Canadians with diabetes, but CDEs have additional training," Wang says.

Talk to your Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacist about booking an appointment with a certified diabetes educator. For more information about CDEs, visit shoppersdrugmart.ca.

— Jane Doucet

SHOPPERS DRUG MART A1C CLINICS

The A1C is a test that shows the average level of blood sugar (glucose) over the previous three months. It also indicates how well you are controlling your diabetes. The higher the A1C level is above target, the poorer the blood-sugar control and the higher the risk of diabetes-related complications, such as kidney and nerve damage and vision loss.

Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacies across Canada hold A1C clinics throughout the year to help people with diabetes better manage their health.

"If you've missed a clinic but you would like to have an A1C test, ask your Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacist if he or she can administer it," says Jeannette Wang, the senior vice-president of professional affairs and services for Shoppers Drug Mart.

Want to take control of your diabetes?

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Visit your local Shoppers Drug Mart Pharmacy today to speak to a Pharmacist about taking charge of your health.

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To find a Certified Diabetes Educator at the location nearest you, visit shoppersdrugmart.ca/locator.



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Cliff Levingston conducts a Rainmen practice earlier this season. METRO FILE

Rainmen fire head coach after 5 games

CHL. Cliff Levingston shown the door after 2-3 start



MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

It took just five games for the Halifax Rainmen to cut ties with head coach Cliff Levingston.

The 51-year-old Levingston, a two-time NBA champion during his playing career, was fired on Tuesday night after starting the National Basketball League of Canada season with a 2-3 record.

Levingston was hired in August to replace departed Josep "Pep" Claros.

"We just weren't on the

same page, we weren't seeing eye-to-eye on a lot of things," said Rainmen owner Andre Levingston, who made the decision. "We just had different philosophies in terms of the way we move the club forward."

The Rainmen lost to the London Lightning in the NBL Canada final under Claros last season but revamped their roster, returning just two players.

They're tied for the most losses in the league and have scored 94.4 points per game, an 11-point decline from last season's league-leading attack.

"For the talent we have, we are not — and I know it's early — but we are not reaching our potential offensively or defensively," Andre Levingston said. "We just need to go in a different direction."

Andre Levingston said as-

Rainmen coaching history

- **2007-08** — Rick Lewis (12-20, missed ABA playoffs)
- **2008-09** — Rick Lewis (6-5) and Les Berry (6-3, missed PBL playoffs).
- **2009-10** — Les Berry (13-7, lost in PBL semifinals).
- **2010-11** — Les Berry (6-4) and Mike Evans (4-6, lost in PBL semifinals).
- **2011-12** — Josep "Pep" Claros (23-13, lost in NBL Canada final).
- **2012-13** — Cliff Levingston (2-3).

sistant coach Colter Simmonds will take over as interim head coach and will call the shots on Saturday when the Rainmen host the Moncton Miracles. But he said he expects to announce his new head coach by the end of the week.

"I'm talking to a few people and we're just trying to see if it can be worked out," Andre Le-

vingston said.

Andre and Cliff Levingston are cousins and Andre said the two parted ways amicably after a face-to-face meeting on Tuesday.

"He's my cousin, I love him, and we hugged after the meeting," he said. "We're family. We just weren't on the same page, and business is business."

QMJHL

Hannay back practising with Mooseheads

Defenceman Sawyer Hannay is back in Halifax practising with the Mooseheads.

Hannay, eligible to play in the QMJHL as an over-ager, started the season with Salzburg Red Bull's under-20 team in Austria, where he recorded one assist and 89 penalty minutes in nine games. He remains on the Mooseheads' reserve list.

"As of now, he's just practising with us," Mooseheads general manager Cam Russell said.

The 20-year-old former Vancouver Canucks draft pick spent three seasons with the Mooseheads from 2009 to 2012, recording a goal and 14 assists along with 411 penalty minutes in 159 games.

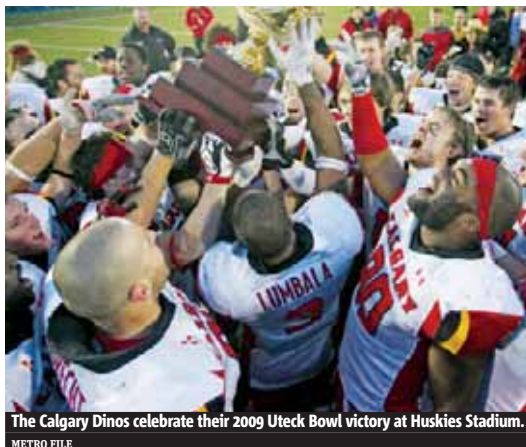
The Mooseheads have already reached their limit of three over-agers — forward Stefan Fournier, defencemen Konrad Abeltshauser and Steve Gillard — so Hannay can't play unless one of the regulars is injured or scratched.

METRO



Sawyer Hannay METRO FILE

Football. Saint Mary's supports bringing back Uteck Bowl



The Calgary Dinos celebrate their 2009 Uteck Bowl victory at Huskies Stadium. METRO FILE

Saint Mary's athletic director David Murphy said Tuesday he's all for bringing the Uteck Bowl back to Huskies Stadium on a permanent basis.

Atlantic University Sport pulled the 2013 and 2015 Canadian Interuniversity Sport football semifinal from Moncton on Monday and is now in the process of finding a new venue.

Huskies Stadium had been the venue for the Uteck Bowl every other year since its creation in 2003 before AUS shifted it to Moncton in 2011. Prior to that, the Atlantic Bowl national semifinal had been held at Huskies Stadium for three decades.

"Would I go after it? Absol-

Quoted

"We have the population within HRM and this has been the traditional venue for the Uteck Bowl.... Of course, I would love to see it back here." Saint Mary's athletic director David Murphy on the Uteck Bowl being played at Huskies Stadium.

utely, I would. Absolutely," Murphy said. "I'm a traditionalist; the history and the tradition and everything says it should be here. Certainly that would be part of my argument for having the event here."

AUS executive director Phil Currie said Monday the Uteck Bowl will either return to Huskies Stadium or be played at the home field of the conference champion. A decision won't be made until February at the earliest.

Although Huskies Stadium has lost both permanent and temporary seating since the last time the Uteck Bowl was played there in 2009, Murphy said a refurbishment of the facility is expected to begin by November 2013.

"There will be some changes made to the configuration of Huskies Stadium that will make it a more appropriate football venue," Murphy said.

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO

NFL

Injury questions surround 'Big Ben'

Ben Roethlisberger left Heinz Field on Monday night with his sprained right shoulder in a sling. When he walks back in ready to play is anybody's guess.

Steelers coach Mike Tomlin called Pittsburgh's

quarterback "questionable" but otherwise offered little detail Tuesday, less than 24 hours after Roethlisberger was pounded into the ground by Kansas City linebackers Tamba Hali and Justin Houston in Pittsburgh's 16-13 win.

"He is being evaluated," Tomlin said. "Obviously this injury puts his participation in the questionable category for this week."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Raps show resolve in Indianapolis

The Toronto Raptors had all of the excuses in the world. The Indiana Pacers, on the other hand, didn't.

Jose Calderon scored with 4:05 left in the first quarter to give Toronto a 19-17 lead and the Raptors led the rest of the way, holding on to beat the

Pacers 74-72 on Tuesday night to snap a four-game skid on the second night of a back-to-back. DeMar DeRozan scored 15 points and Calderon had 13 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists as Toronto had a franchise-low five points in the fourth quarter.

The Raptors lost to the Utah Jazz 140-133 on Monday and arrived in Indianapolis at 3 a.m. before playing the Pacers. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Toronto's Jose Calderon shoots over George Hill on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

MLB. Jays brass shows willingness to go big

At Major League Baseball's all-star game in July, Jose Bautista — the Blue Jays' lone representative — lamented how general manager Alex Anthopoulos had not done enough to make the Jays competitive in the AL East.

On Tuesday night, Bautista was singing a very different tune.

"It's a good day to be a blue-jay!" he tweeted, as reports of a blockbuster trade between the Jays and the Miami Marlins rapidly circulated online.

Though no official announcement had been made at press time, the Jays and Marlins reportedly swapped a total of 13 players, with Toronto acquiring four-time all-star shortstop Jose Reyes, veteran starting pitchers Josh Johnson and Mark Buehrle, as well as John Buck and Emilio Bonifacio, in exchange for young right-hander Henderson Alvarez, shortstops Yunel Escobar and Adeiny Hechavarria, catcher Jeff Mathis and a trio of top-ranked prospects — Jake Marisnick, Justin Nicolino and Anthony DeSclafani.

The trade dramatically alters the makeup of the Jays' 2013 roster, instantly improves their starting rotation and pushes their annual payroll over \$100 million and into the upper echelons of the league. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Jose Reyes GETTY IMAGES FILE

New CBA stalled by owners' complacency, Crosby says



Sidney Crosby listens to a reporter's questions after an informal workout on Oct. 11 in Canonsburg, Pa. KEITH SRAKOCIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

NHL. Pens' superstar centre frustrated by league's hard-line stance

Sidney Crosby says it takes two to tango.

The Pittsburgh Penguins captain stood by his comments voicing frustration Tuesday at the lack of movement in negotiations on a new collective bargaining agreement between the NHL and the NHLPA.

And Crosby pointed the finger squarely at the owners.

"I don't think there's much negotiating going on. I think as far as the proposals are concerned it's just kind of at a standstill right now," Crosby told reporters after skating in Pittsburgh. "I think that we've made steps to show that we're willing to negotiate."

"I don't think that's really happening on the other side."

Talks between the NHL and the NHLPA to end the lockout stalled again over the weekend. No bargaining sessions are planned and Crosby says players feel like they're negotiating with an unwilling partner.

"The desperation to play doesn't really seem like it's on their side. I think there's a deal to be made (but) I think negotiations have to be made if there's

Quoted

"It doesn't have anything to do with (money), it's the rights of players within your profession, so that's what I think guys are definitely going to stand strong on."

Sidney Crosby

going to be a deal," he said. "If it keeps going like this, everybody's going to lose, there's no way around it."

"Everybody's going to lose."

NHLPA special counsel Steve Fehr told a panel in Toronto on Monday that three issues remain to be solved: The split of money, player contract rights and who pays for the damage caused by the lockout.

The NHL has proposed changes to entry-level deals, arbitration, free agency and contract limits.

Those issues particularly irked Crosby and he reiterated those feelings Tuesday.

"Guys aren't going to give in when it comes to contract stuff. It's not going to happen," Crosby said. "It's ridiculous to try to change that after the success the league and everybody's had here the last seven or eight years." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lines in the sand

Still holding out hope

The owners locked out the players in mid-September and all games up to Nov. 30 have been cancelled.

The Winter Classic outdoor game that was scheduled for Jan. 1 has also been axed.

It is believed a deal would need to be struck early next week for a shortened season to begin on Dec. 1.

"It's tough when you want to play hockey and I don't think the other side really takes that serious. They're able to do that, that's not their livelihood," Sidney Crosby said.

Despite his frustration, Crosby is reserving judgment on whether there will be a 2012-13 NHL season.

"I'd like to think that everyone will find a way to make it work. That's really what it boils down to, everyone finding a way to make it work," he said. "It's a bit of give and take and that hasn't really happened yet."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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‘With no particular place to go.’ Is the casual drive dead?

Autopilot



AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

We’ve got a skinny latte at the ready in the cup holder, a navigation system lighting our way and electric elements in the seats warming our nether regions and lower back, but we don’t seem to be whistling a happy tune behind the wheel.

Most likely we’re mumbling about the traffic or the road construction. Could also be something more generic, like the idiocy of our fellow humans, or the crush of time.

Basically, we’re getting nicer vehicles, but the nature of our trips is going the other way, the wrong way. We take too many of them, and most of them are just about getting somewhere under a tight deadline. It’s a scenario that’s killing some of the joy of driving and pushing “just going for a drive” to extinction.

Now, I don’t want to sound like a folksinger. (How many folksingers does it take to screw in a light bulb? Four. One to screw in the light bulb, three to sing about how much better the old light bulb was.) But not too long ago, I think more people went driving for the sake of it — as an enjoyable way to pass some time.

The term “Sunday afternoon drive” is still in our vernacular, but who goes on those things anymore? Last time I suggested we go on a Sunday afternoon drive the kids looked at me like I was on drugs. One turned back



“Riding along in my automobile” isn’t really a pastime anymore. Nearly every journey we take serves a purpose. ISTOCK

to their digital entertainment device without saying a word.

The other said, “Great idea, Dad,” in a totally ironic way, before turning back to their digital entertainment device.

If you’re already driving tons, I can see why you wouldn’t want to get into the car again, but that isn’t the only thing driving “not driving.” It’s been well docu-

mented that younger generations aren’t purchasing cars like previous generations — if you don’t have a vehicle at your disposal, the chances are good you’re not going on any kind of drive, particularly the “just for the hell of it” type.

In an article chronicling how car use is peaking in the rich world, The Economist had this to say about the younger generation’s totally

digitalized life and indifference to the automobile: “Never before has not traveling been so much fun.”

Fuel expenses and the desire to be more green are also crimping recreational driving. And what about electric vehicles? Are you gonna blow your whole 12-hour charge on some aimless car ride?

As any culture, car culture has to constantly change and

evolve. It’s evolved to a point where people are increasingly less likely to jump in a car and just drive for the sake of it.

There’s good in that for sure, but I’m just saying we’re losing a very cool pastime practiced and enjoyed by many generations before us — a pastime that, when you’re lucky, affords you an awesome headspace you’ll not find any other way.

Vital winter-busting features

Peace of mind. Automakers offer driving confidence and comfort for the cold months ahead

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

Whether you’re considering a new SUV, sports car or hybrid sedan, a wider range of winter-busting features than ever are

making their way into new vehicles. All have the goal of helping take the unpleasantness out of winter driving — and all are more affordable and accessible than they were even five years ago.

Whatever new ride you’re contemplating, be sure to check out features designed to help keep you safe and comfortable on the go when the cold weather hits. Your sales representative would love to show you some of the following:

High performance lighting
Once reserved for high-dollar

luxury cars, high-performance xenon lighting is available in more vehicles than ever before. Xenon lighting provides superior light output compared to a conventional halogen setup.

Winter tires

Winter tires give your new vehicle’s AWD system and advanced braking and stability technologies more traction to work with. In addition to maximizing grip between your car or truck and a snowy road, installing winter rubber results in a notable increase in vehicle stability at speeds, as well as

shorter stopping distances.

Hands-free functionality

Steering-wheel mounted controls, voice-command and automatic features are all becoming more common and affordable. In particular, features like automatic lights and wipers, combined with voice-commanded climate control and navigation functionality all reduce the need to take your hands off of the wheel in bad weather.

All wheel drive (AWD)

The latest advanced AWD sys-

tems are now more accessible and affordable than ever, and work to enhance year-round traction on any surface. Forget that snowstorm or icy sideroad — with AWD on board, your ride will get you where you need to go with no second thought. Getting stuck in that snow-plow hump at the end of your driveway will become a thing of the past, too. Manufacturers like Mitsubishi, Subaru and Suzuki even offer AWD on their compact cars. Use winter tires with your AWD for maximum results.

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Driving Force.

2013 Infiniti JX is first to offer unique 'luxury segment' service

JIL
MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

As fancy as some cars are, there's always a limit. Buyers in the premium segment naturally want luxury and technology, but automakers have to balance several factors, including the cost, what technology is available, and if it can be integrated into a vehicle.

Perception is also a major factor in this field. Buyers have to use and like the features, and feel there is value in them.

In recent years, auto companies have put a premium on time and convenience. Today, some of the hottest "must-have" features are ones that make the vehicle an extension of the driver's itinerary, such as those that let an owner integrate a smartphone and the applications he or she already uses.

Infiniti has taken this step further with its new Infiniti Personal Assistant, or IPA, which is standard on every 2013 Infiniti



The Infiniti JX comes complete with a concierge who is just a call or email away. HANDOUT

model. The owner is given a toll-free number that connects to a "personal concierge," who identifies him through his phone number. The operator will answer just about any request, from hotel reservations and directory assistance, to sports scores, stock market updates, weather forecasts, and more.

"We are the first automotive manufacturer in Canada to offer this," says Michael Kopke, chief marketing manager for Infiniti. "You actually get a human being. You're not hitting 'one' for this and 'two' for that."

"It could be as simple as booking a restaurant or ordering flowers, but when we tested it before launching, we had IPA help with sourcing a refrigerator at the best price and the location to find it."

The service is unusual in that it can be accessed anywhere by telephone, rather than only through the vehicle itself (it will work on a phone paired to the car, of course). While the call connects to a U.S. centre, and information can be obtained for just about anything worldwide, calls from Canada are answered in English or French, and information is Canadian-specific when required.

Depending on the request, answers can be given right away, or sent as a text message or email. Links are included so information can be downloaded into smartphones, such as a Google map or a company's website.

"It's part of being participatory in the luxury segment," Kopke says.

CLASS ACTION AGAINST VOLKSWAGEN

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

IF YOU PURCHASED OR LEASED A 2006 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA
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MODEL COVERED

2006 Volkswagen Jetta vehicles with serial numbers between 1K_5M000001 and 1K_6M759703.

THE PROBLEM

The approved agreement pertains to problems resulting from the premature wear and severing of left front driver door wiring harness which causes intermittent or permanent problems related to the use of accessories and / or use of power from the electrical system of the vehicles covered (the "Problem Covered").

THE COMPENSATION

Persons who repaired, replaced or purchased the wiring harness for the left front driver door may obtain a **reimbursement of \$320.00** less, in some cases, a credit granted or previously reimbursed by Volkswagen or one of its authorized dealers relating to the Problem Covered and, in all cases, court approved deductions for legal fees and statutory withholdings.

THE EXTENDED WARRANTY

Moreover, the warranty on this part is **extended to 8.5 years (102 months) or 165,000 km** from the in-service date, whichever comes first. An amount of \$60.00 plus applicable taxes must be paid by the members to take advantage of the repairs under the extended warranty.

If you repaired, replaced or purchased the wiring harness for the left front driver door and want to claim a reimbursement, you must, **by March 29, 2013 at the latest, submit a Claim Form**, which is available online or from the Claims Administrator:

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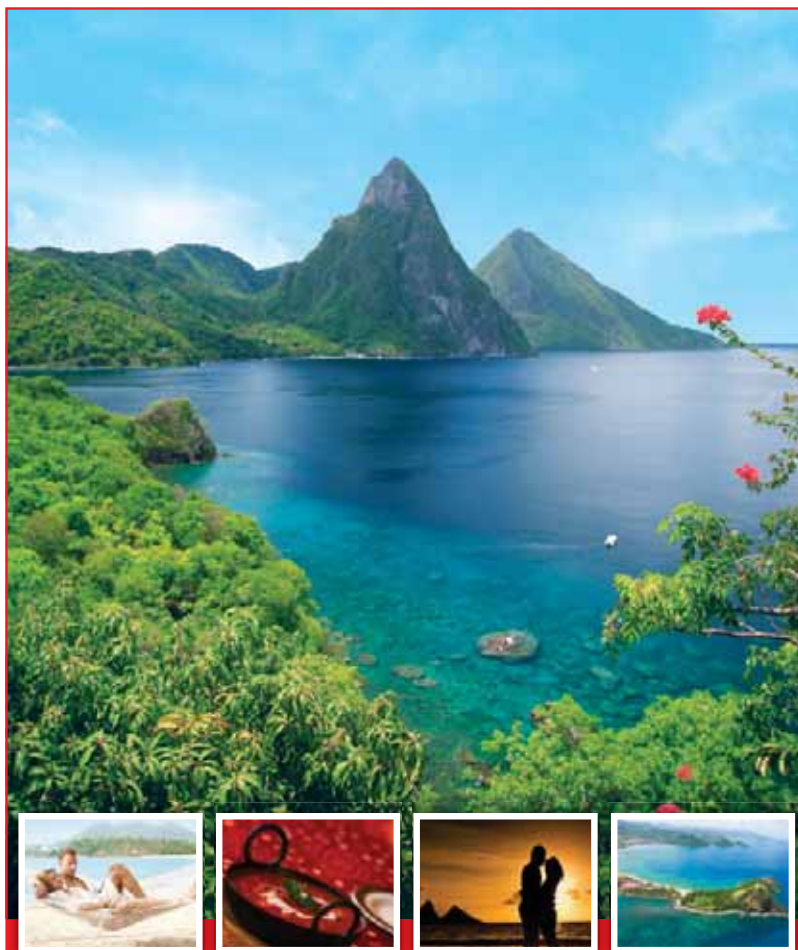
You may exclude yourself ("opt-out") by providing, **by January 13, 2013 at the latest**, the Opt-Out Form available online or from the Claims Administrator at the address above.

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2006-2010 Hummer H3

Few machines in recent history combine real-world 4x4 capability and stand-out styling like models from GM's now killed-off Hummer line. The original, military-grade Hummer H1 pops into the minds of the masses when the brand is brought up — though GM successfully marketed a smaller civilian model called the H3, and it came with features including power seats, premium Monsoon audio, a driver computer and more.

Common Issues

Earlier five-cylinder powered models suffered from a cylinder head problem, which could cause potentially severe engine problems. Symptoms may include a rough idle, poor power delivery, or a loud ticking sound. This problem was most likely to present itself while the H3 was still under warranty — though approval from a GM mechanic should be sought, just to be safe. Note

that V8-powered H3s aren't affected by this issue. Have a mechanic check the underside for any signs of excessive rust, leaks, or damage caused by careless off-roading. Ensure the H3's 4x4 system can switch between its various modes as described in the owner's manual. If that's not the case, be sure to find out why before agreeing to fork over any cash.

Engine



Standard five-cylinder models packed 220 or 242 horsepower depending on the year, while an available 5.3 litre smallblock V8 turned out 300 ponies.

What owners like



Capability, styling and toughness are some of the most-loved attributes of the H3. A smooth and comfortable ride, small turning circle and easy maneuverability can be expected, too.

What owners dislike



Gripes centre around a cramped rear seat, a small cargo hold and limited at-hand storage up front. Many owners also wish their H3s had more intuitive control placement, too.

Verdict

The H3 should prove a worthy ride for a shopper concerned mainly with style and capability. Those after fuel efficiency, modesty and sensibility are best advised to look elsewhere.



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Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20
From today on, a relationship issue won't seem so important. Most likely, you have reached the point where someone's negative behaviour no longer annoys you the way it once did. You have more important things to worry about.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21
Mercury's move back into your opposite sign means you won't be able to go your own way or do your own thing for a while. Whatever restrictions are placed on you, just accept them. They're only temporary.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21
Recent events have taken a lot out of you, both physically and mentally, so you really do need to slow down for a while. Put your wellbeing first today, and for the rest of the week. Work can wait.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23
It's time to get serious about your creative endeavours. Most importantly, you need to have a clear picture in your mind of what it is you are aiming to accomplish. And yes, that's "aiming", not just "hoping".

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23
Your domestic situation is in a period of flux and what happens today will make it obvious that if you don't make changes, other people will. You don't have to act immediately, but you do have to get serious about it.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
The planets will find ways to tell you that you are taking too much for granted and need to look again at the way you think about, and interact with, the world outside your door. Open your mind to new possibilities.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will get another chance to resolve a financial issue that has been casting a shadow over your life in recent weeks. And, this time, you must take it. You already know what needs to be done, so do it.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Mind planet Mercury, which is in one of its retrograde phases, moves back into your sign today. So, most likely, you will have to reconsider an issue you thought had been resolved. Looks like other people don't agree with you.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
How can you change your life for the better? What things can you improve on today so your tomorrows will be more enjoyable? Give it some thought and then get busy. Any day can be a new beginning.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The planets are again trying to tell you that you will only make progress if you find ways to bring others into your plans. Are you the sort of person who knows how to share? If not, maybe it's time to learn.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is a good time for matters related to your career but you will need to be on your guard. Don't let a rival steal the glory that should have been yours. Use your elbows and barge your way to the front.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20
You may want to be on the move but that may not be possible today. Most likely, you will have to stay where you are and take care of a situation that no one else is qualified to handle. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Canadian Crossword

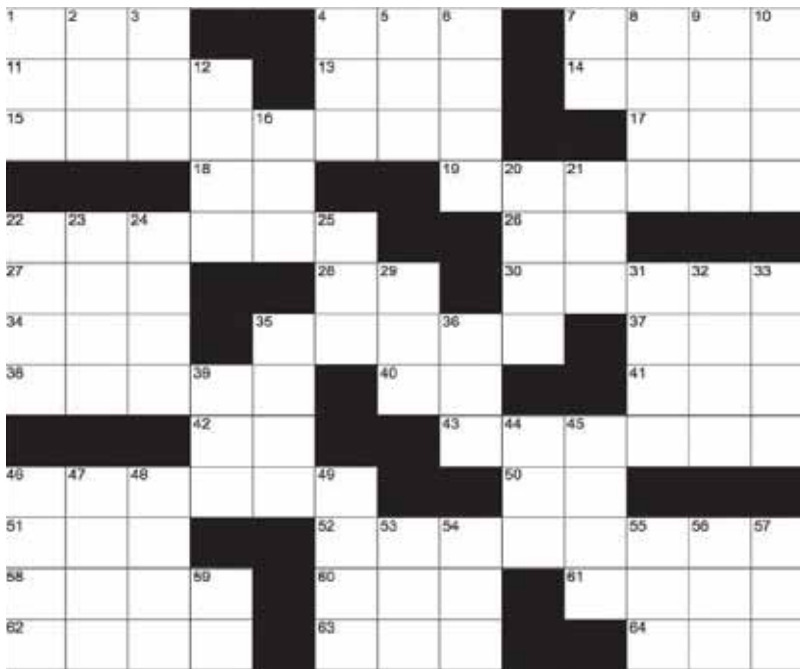
Across

- 1. Corner —
- 4. Note paper
- 7. Trendy New York area
- 11. Operatic solo
- 13. "Hold on Tight" gr.
- 14. Dog and cat menace
- 15. University or college hearings
- 17. Carol Burnett tugged on this
- 18. Dr. Camille Saroyan on Bones (init.)
- 19. Mistakes
- 22. Fired (sl.)
- 26. Ready — Not
- 27. Mineral
- 28. Used in the summertime (abbr.)
- 30. Broadcasted
- 34. Plural suffix
- 35. Fireplace coal
- 37. Actress Gardner
- 38. Filthy weather
- 40. St. bordering New York
- 41. Actor Beatty
- 42. For example (abbr.)
- 43. Heads the meeting
- 46. Stress
- 50. Little House — the Prairie
- 51. Quick — — bunny (2 words)
- 52. Image
- 58. Allows
- 60. Boxing great
- 61. New York canal
- 62. Star of I Dream of Jeannie
- 63. Mad —
- 64. Part of i.e.

Down

- 1. Guys partner
- 2. — we there yet?
- 3. Command for Fido
- 4. Apiece (abbr.)
- 5. Lager
- 6. Rx directive

BY BETTY MARTIN

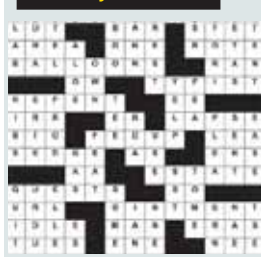


- 7. California city (abbr.)
- 8. Butter substitute
- 9. Listen
- 10. Rowboat needs
- 12. Letter starter
- 16. Southern Indian tribe
- 20. Lion's yell
- 21. Country abbr.
- 22. Video game slot
- 23. Math calculation
- 24. Robert Stack in The Untouchables

- 25. Water barrier
- 29. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (abbr.)
- 31. Hindi queen
- 32. For always
- 33. My Two —
- 35. Ogles
- 36. And so on.... (abbr.)
- 39. Even score
- 44. Gardening implement
- 45. Green Gables girl
- 46. Mrs. Roy Rogers

- 47. Utilized
- 48. Merit
- 49. Shut the door forcefully
- 53. Island (Fr.)
- 54. Relative
- 55. Before (poet.)
- 56. Family member (abbr.)
- 57. Lay down
- 59. "Jurassic Park" actor (init.)

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

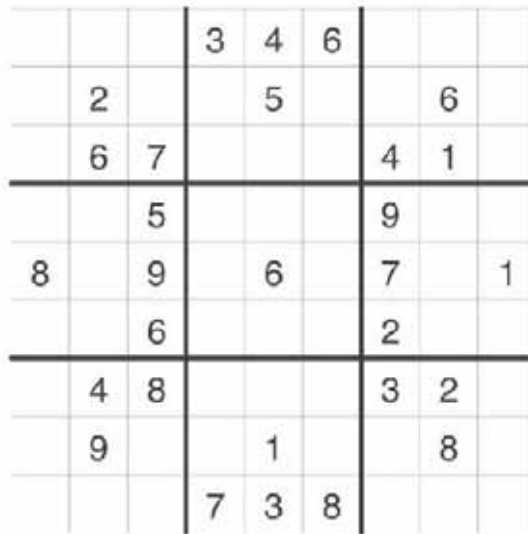


Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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Rain
80%

Thursday
8°/3°
Partly cloudy

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